

To the Sheriff of *Kent* County, Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.
To the Sheriff of *Dorchester* County, Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.
And to the Sheriff of *Somerset* County, Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.
To the Sheriff of *Calvert* County, Eight Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.
To the Sheriff of *Charles* County, Eight Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.
To the Sheriff of *St. Mary's* County, Eight Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.
To the Sheriff of *Prince-George's* County, Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.
And to the Sheriff of *Baltimore* County, Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.
Which said several and respective Sums of Tobacco shall be annually allowed and paid to the Sheriffs aforesaid; in Consideration whereof the Sheriffs of the said several and respective Counties shall defray all such Charges as shall accrue by Reason of conveying of such Letters or Packets; any former Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

The above Allowances are affected by the Inspection Law, 1763, *ch.* 18.

IV. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That such Public Letters and Packets be endorsed, *For her Majesty's Service*, and with the Person's Name that send them. And if any Person or Persons whatsoever, shall, at any Time after the Publication of this Act, presume to endorse any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, so as aforesaid, which are not for the Public Service, he, or they, shall forfeit and pay for such Offence Five Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, to be recovered in any of her Majesty's Courts of Record within this Province, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Effoin, Protection or Wager of Law shall be allowed.

Public Letters, how to be endorsed. Persons so endorsing Letters, not for the Public Service, forfeit 500^{lb} Tobacco.

V. And the better to ascertain what Letters shall be accounted Public Letters, Be it Enacted, by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That all Letters directed to the Governor of this Province, for the Time being, endorsed, *For her Majesty's Service*; and all Letters sent by the Governor, having his, or the Clerk of the Council's, Name endorsed, and *For her Majesty's Service*, directed to any Person whatsoever; and all Letters sent by any Member of her Majesty's Council, with the Subscriber's Name endorsed, and *For her Majesty's Service*; all Letters sent by the Speaker, or Clerk of the House of Delegates, for the Time being, with the Subscriber's Name endorsed, and *For her Majesty's Service*; all Letters sent by a Justice of the Provincial Court, with the Subscriber's Name endorsed, and *For her Majesty's Service*; and all Letters sent by the Public Treasurers of each Shore, to any Naval Officer, with the Subscriber's Name endorsed, and *For her Majesty's Service*, shall be accounted, only, Public Letters.

What Letters shall be deemed Public Letters.

VI. And whereas, also, the Sheriffs of this Province, whose Duty it is to convey Letters for her Majesty's Service, are very much complained of for their Negligence therein; Be it Enacted, by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That if any High-Sheriff, or his Deputies, receive any Public Letter, he shall, if required, give a Receipt for the same, shewing the Day and Hour when he received the same: And when he delivers the same Letter to the next Sheriff, or Party to whom directed, the Party that receives the same, shall likewise, if required, give such like Receipt to the Sheriff that first received it. And any High-Sheriff, or his Deputy or Deputies (for whom the High-Sheriff shall be answerable) shall refuse to give such Receipt, to be proved by the Oath of the Person demanding such Receipt; or, having received such Letter, shall wilfully neglect immediately to forward such Letter, as directed, so that such Letter is stopped Twenty-four Hours longer than it reasonably need be, (respect being had to the Wind and Weather) the High-Sheriff shall forfeit the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds of Tobacco in Cash; the one Moiety thereof to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her Heirs and Successors, for the Support of the Government of this Province, the other Moiety to him or them that will sue for the same; to be recovered by Action of Debt,

Sheriffs (if required) shall give Receipts for Public Letters, and may demand the like. Penalty on Sheriffs refusing to give such Receipt, or detaining Public Letters.